Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes Sept 12, 2016 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Many people could not attend. Paul Avery, Peter Barnes, Erik Deumens, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Alberto Riva, Jack Stenner, Raffaele Vacca

Updates

- HiPerGator integration status:
 - The old /scratch/lfs has been evacuated and its storage blocks are now upgraded to version 2.5 and will be added to the new /ufrc starting this week.
 - Then the temporary reduction in quota will be relaxed.
 - Lustre 2.5 has a bug that impacts Robinhood, which is the hierarchical storage component that we want to deploy.
 - The attempt to upgrade to 2.8 revealed a bug that impacts the system as large as ours.
 - We are now looking into installing Intel Enterprise Edition Lustre 3.x.
- Rewording of what RC sell to meet stricter auditing requirements: hardware products and services.
 - Because of the settlement with the Federal Government, Contracts and Grants is much more restrictive regarding allowable cost.
 - We rebranded the products as hardware and put different prices on the services to make the distinction very clear. Hence you buy cores and TB for the normal industry-standard 5-year lifecycle. You can still buy per year, if that is required, but it is 10% more expensive.
- Refinement of storage policies coming: burst storage
 - We will start sending notices when a group is over 90% of its quota, so they can take timely action before writing is blocked.
 - We will implement 1 month grace period for thos projects that need old-style scratch space, i.e. storage that is deleted at the end of a job. The longest allowed job can run 1 month.
- ResVault in production
 - We have several real user groups.
- UF leader in the nation in support for work on restricted data
 - The FISMA and ResVault work has been noticed across the country and we get invitations to speak and queries on how we did it.
- Formalizing support for startup companies
 - A memo and agreement to allow startup companies to use Research Computing systems and to buy cores and storage at discounted process is being reviewed by the Provost and the VP for Research.
 - The committee recommend to increase the consulting cost to \$150 per hour from the proposed \$50 per hour.

Organization

Next meeting will be on Monday October 3, 2016 in the smaller conference room in NPB 2304 from 1:30-2:30 pm.